

RECOGNIZING JUDGE THOMAS A. RAPPA, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of the Honorable Judge Thomas A. Rappa, Jr. and to thank him for his dedicated services to the New Hampshire Judicial Branch and the people of New Hampshire for the past 30 years.

After graduating from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1986, Judge Rappa began a long career in the New Hampshire judicial system. He first worked for the Honorable Karl T. Bruckner in Woodsville, New Hampshire before taking on his own practice. As a lawyer, Judge Rappa served the people of New Hampshire in his work on the interdisciplinary coordinating council for domestic violence, in teaching legal and paralegal classes at Plymouth State College and in the College for Life Long Learning, and in instituting a Teen Court in his Plymouth, New Hampshire court. He also served for six years on the Pro Bono Advisory Board, where he received the L. Jonathan Ross Award in 1989, and on the Board of Governors from 1991 to 1993.

Throughout his impressive tenure, Judge Rappa has truly been a leader in his community and the Granite State as a whole, demonstrating the compassion, wisdom, and fairness that is the hallmark of a great judge. I am proud to rise today in acknowledgement of his achievements and wish him the best upon his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, due to a conflict, I unavoidably missed the following votes on June 28. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

1. On roll call No. 306, I would have voted "nay."
2. On roll call No. 307, I would have voted "nay."
3. On roll call No. 308, I would have voted "nay."
4. On roll call No. 309, I would have voted "aye."
5. On roll call No. 310, I would have voted "aye."
6. On roll call No. 311, I would have voted "nay."
7. On roll call No. 312, I would have voted "aye."
8. On roll call No. 313, I would have voted "nay," because the bill commits funding for three Littoral Combat Ships, which, as the Heritage Foundation wrote, has "disturbingly limited capabilities against a near-peer adversary." Purchasing two more LCSs than the Navy has even asked for is a classic Congressional boondoggle.

CONGRATULATING BRADFORD CHAMBERS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Agent Brad Chambers on his retirement after 20 years of service in U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Agent Chambers began his career by serving his country as a Helicopter Instructor Pilot in the U.S. Army. After serving in the military, he continued his passion for protecting Americans by working tirelessly for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, occupying positions of instructor training pilot, Air-Marine Operator, and Air Interdiction Pilot. Agent Chambers also was the Founder and one of the Chief Advisers for Law Enforcement Explorers Post 2100, a group that mentors high school and college students considering a career in law enforcement or the military, which highlights Agent Chambers' lifelong commitment to educating and protecting Americans.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to thank Agent Brad Chambers for his years of hard work and service to the public, and wish him all the best in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 14, and Friday, June 15, 2018, I was not present for recorded votes because I needed to travel home to attend my daughter's high school graduation. I would have voted:

- "YES" on roll call vote No. 265 (on passage of H.R. 5788),
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 266 (on passage of H.R. 5735),
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 267 (on agreeing to the Thornberry Amendment to H.R. 2851), and
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 268 (on passage of H.R. 2851).

REMEMBERING MR. JUAN JOSÉ PEÑA

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Juan José Peña, who passed away this month at the age of 72. Mr. Peña was a dedicated community leader who committed much of his life to fighting for the civil rights of veterans and Hispanics.

Mr. Peña spent most of his childhood in the town of Las Vegas. He went on to receive Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from New

Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, where he studied a range of topics including Spanish Language, Literature, and Political Science.

Mr. Peña was drafted into the Army in 1969 and went on to receive a multitude of decorations including a Bronze Star Medal for Valor. He was the most decorated member of the Fourth Infantry Division when it returned to the United States.

After serving our nation, Mr. Peña became a Spanish Professor at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas. He went on to work as a supervisory interpreter at the United States District Court in Albuquerque for more than two decades. Mr. Peña continued to work as a freelance interpreter after he retired.

Mr. Peña was an active member of our community whose reach extended to a number of influential organizations. He was a leader in Partido Raza Unida, Commander of the Albuquerque and New Mexico branches of the American GI Forum, Chairman of the Hispano Round Table, and founding member of Dads Against Discrimination. Mr. Peña's tireless fight against discrimination earned him numerous honors including the City of Albuquerque Human Rights Award.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to Mr. Peña's partner of 23 years Ann Tran, his brother Fernando, his daughter Margarita, his grandchildren Shar and Mariana, as well as the rest of his loved ones. I hope they are comforted by cherished memories of Mr. Peña, and by the fact that so many in our community mourn his loss and celebrate his life with them.

HONORING LENORE KARLIN

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lenore Karlin, a resident of NewBridge on the Charles, located in Dedham, Massachusetts, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday on April 25, 2018. As the Representative of the 8th Congressional District of Massachusetts, I am honored to represent such an extraordinary woman in the United States Congress.

Recently, Lenore was celebrated by numerous family and friends in a tribute to "A Life Well Lived." Lenore's story and life experiences serve as an example of a person who has made a profound difference in so many lives and continues today to bring joy to those that love and admire her. I include that story in the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, during the celebration, surrounded by family and friends, Lenore's daughter told the story of this remarkable woman and spoke of Lenore's efforts to help others from an early age. A lifetime of volunteer work, Lenore has done it all, from traveling on the "Plant Mobile" to Boston's inner-city schools teaching students to how to grow plants to translating books into German in Braille.

Mr. Speaker, Lenore shows her love and support to family and friends by never missing an opportunity to make someone's day brighter. It is fitting today that I ask all my colleagues to wish Lenore Karlin a very Happy